countries under the MFA. However, because of the back-loading of the ATC, a major portion of the benefits is estimated to accrue in the later half of the transition period.

(c) Some of the reasons for the increase in exports include expansion and diversification of productive capacity, export of value added items, liberalisation and simplification of the Policy and Procedures for exports and the various promotional activities carried out by the Councils.

(d) The Item-wise exports of textile items during April 94—January '95 are given below:—

Value in US Million Dollars

(*Provisional*)

(i) Readymade garments .	3505.94
(ii) Cotton textiles . .	2309.01
(iii) Woollen textiles . .	151.11
(iv) Silk textiles . . .	242.71
(v) Man-made fibre textiles .	597.71
(vi) Handicrafts . . .	1128.51
(vii) Jute	95.62
(viii) Coir	43.24
TOTAL	8073.85

(e) The component of polyester and viscose in the total export of Synthetic and Rayon Textiles are approximately 69.1 per cent and 26.4 per cent respectively.

(f) Despite competition from other textile and garment producing countries, our exports have been increasing steadily.

राष्ट्रीय वस्त्र निगम की मिलों को हुई हानि और उसके द्वारा अर्जित लाभ

1220. **श्री शंकर दयाल सिंह :** क्या वस्त्र मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि राष्ट्रीय वस्त्र निगम की उन मिलों का ब्यौरा क्या है जिनमें 1994 के अंत तक लाभ हुआ है अथवा हानि हुई है ?

वस्त्र मंत्री (श्री जी० वेंकट स्वामी) : सूचना एकत्र की जा रही है तथा सभा पटल पर रख दी जाएगी ।

Textile agreement between India and European Union

1221. SHRI JALALUDIN ANSARI:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a textiles agreement has been signed between India and the European Union; and

(b) if so, the details of the agreement and how far it will be beneficial to our country?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Government have signed textile agreement with the E.C. The salient features of the Agreement are as follows:

(i) All restrictions on our exports of handloom and cottage industry products have been removed.

(ii) Over and above the existing flexibilities, exceptional flexibility of 7,000 tonnes per year for the period 1995 to 1997 and 8,000 tonnes for the period 1998 to 2004 have been provided.

In order to accommodate some of the concerns of the EC, India has agreed to give phased tariff liberalization and limited market openings schedule for certain textile items at varying for rates periods commencing from 3 to 7 years.

The removal of all restrains on Handloom and Cottage industry products and the exceptional flexibilities provided in the agreement, would help increased access of our garment and textile products to the E.C.

Revival of sick textile mills in Tamil Nadu

1222. SHRI K. K. VEERAPPAN:
SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) what are the actions taken or proposed to be taken to revive the sick textile mills in Tamil Nadu;

(b) the number of workers affected by the closure of some textile mills in Tamil Nadu;

(c) what are the remedial action taken by the Central Government to revive the said mills and rehabilitate the workers?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) to (c) As on 31-1-95, 24 Cotton|Man-made Fibre Textile Mills were reported to be colsed which affected 11,307 workers in Tamil Nadu. Government have taken a number of steps to revive the sick|closed textile mills, such as setting up of Board for industrial Reconstruction (BIFR) to avolve and manage rehabilitation package in respect of sick|viable textile mill. Textile Workers' Rehabilitation Fund Scheme (TWRFS) has been set-up to give interim relief to the workers of permanent|partialy closed textile mills.

(**The Deputy Chairman** in the Chair)

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

I. Report and Accounts (1993-94) of the National Handloom Development Corporation United, Lucknow and related papers.

II. Report and Accounts (1993-94) of the Apparel Export Promotion Council, New Delhi.

III. Report and Accounts (1993-94) of the Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts, New Delhi and related papers.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): Madam on behalf of SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY I lay on the Table—

I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers, under sub-sention (1) of section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956:—

(i) Eleventh Annual Report and Accounts of the National Handdoom Development Corporation Limited, Lucknow, for the year 1993-94, together with the Auditors' Report on the Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General of India thereon.

(ii) Review by Government on the working of the above Corporation.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-6945/95]

II. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

(i) (a) Annual Report and Accounts of the Apparel Export Promotion Council New Delhi, for the year 1993-94, together with the Auditors' Report on the Accounts.